

IN FOCUS

COMMUNITY
UPDATE #2



Artist's impression

Celebrating heritage in a new public space for Bowden

Bowden continues to emerge as one of Adelaide's most liveable and inclusive new neighbourhoods.

The transformation of this inner west suburb is about to take another leap forward with the design work for the public open space within the heritage-listed section of the former Brompton Gasworks site, which forms part of the Bowden Heritage Precinct.

Following community engagement on the remediation of this site, which sought to inform the community about how contamination issues would be addressed, we are now ready to start talking about what the public open spaces at the precinct might look like.

Renewal SA has appointed ASPECT Studios to undertake the public realm design of the part of the precinct that is heritage-listed and that contains a number of important, historic structures.

Ultimately the Bowden Heritage Precinct as a whole will become a thriving urban village that blends history with modern, sustainable living.

Read on to find out where the project is at now and how you can get involved in the exciting changes ahead.

Director's message

I was delighted to see so many Adelaide locals turn out for our recent community drop-in sessions about the remediation works scheduled to commence at the Bowden Heritage Precinct, the site of the former Brompton Gasworks.

Originally used to generate the gas required to light the streets of Adelaide, the Brompton Gasworks was an active hub of energy production for around 140 years. It closed operations in the year 2000.

Once remediated, this six-hectare site of disused industrial land will be the location of a vibrant new masterplanned community that will adjoin the existing Bowden neighbourhood and offer a range of housing, retail, commercial and employment opportunities.

Importantly, the Bowden Heritage Precinct will also retain and celebrate eight historic structures in tribute to Bowden's industrial past. These include the 21-metre gasworks chimney, 1879 Retort House, the Chief Street wall and other bluestone heritage buildings.

Remediation is due to commence in early 2020 and is scheduled to be completed within 12-18 months.

As preparations for these works begin, we are now turning our attention to another important aspect of the precinct's transformation, which is the design of the public open space between and around some of the historic structures within the Bowden Heritage Precinct.

This part of the precinct forms a State Heritage Place, a significant cultural site that embodies important aspects of Bowden's and Brompton's industrial past and the life of Adelaide's inner west.

The first of three public conversations about the look and function of the public open space within the State Heritage Place will shortly take place, and we encourage all of our community members to lend their voice to this conversation by attending our upcoming drop-in session in November 2019.

This initial conversation will focus on what defines a great public space to form guiding principles for the design of the public open space within the State Heritage Place.

The community will also be invited to participate in two subsequent conversations about the public open space over the course of the next year when draft and near-finalised design concepts for this space are made available for comment.

Thoughts and ideas generated by the community during this process of public engagement will be shared with the consultants responsible for the

design of the broader precinct's public realm. This design will incorporate the paths, green areas and recreation spaces that will give the Bowden Heritage Precinct a strong sense of place and identity.

A well-designed public place is important because not only does it introduce a positive atmosphere and visual aesthetic to the spaces that we share, but it also facilitates social interaction and a feeling of connectedness that is essential for our wellbeing. It also plays a vital role in ensuring that our public spaces are safe, sustainable, functional and enduring.

A key aim of the public open space design is to ensure that the outdoor communal areas within the State Heritage Place reflect their local setting and the desired future character of the expanding Bowden community.

We welcome you to have your say on this critical element of Bowden's ongoing transformation.

Shane Wingard
Bowden Project Director



Outcomes of community drop-in sessions on remediation works

In July and August this year, Renewal SA facilitated two drop-in sessions at the former Brompton Gasworks site to inform the community about the future remediation works scheduled to commence there.

Remediation is required at the site due to past industrial uses which have left a legacy of contamination, both in the soil and the groundwater. The remediation project will improve environmental conditions, ensuring the site is safe and suitable for its planned redevelopment as the Bowden Heritage Precinct.

More than 70 visitors attended the drop-in sessions and were given the opportunity to review display panels, watch a video of on-site investigative works and look at remediation equipment.

They were also able to ask direct questions of the people managing this phase of the redevelopment, including representatives from Renewal SA as well as remediation contractor Ventia, consultant Senversa and EPA-accredited auditor Bluesphere Environmental.

A number of visitors remarked that they were pleased to see the inside of the former Retort House, where the drop-in sessions were held, after many years of only being able to view the exterior of this heritage-listed building.

The display panels not only contained information about the remediation of the site, but also the future redevelopment of Bowden and how the community could contribute to the process of designing the public open space within the heritage-listed section of the former Brompton Gasworks.

After watching the video, which featured extensive aerial footage, some visitors expressed surprise at the size of the remediation site. Others were interested in the environmental monitoring and controls that will be used during remediation works, including the water 'cannon' for controlling dust and the fragranced misting sprays for reducing odour during soil excavations.

Another topic that generated interest was how the heritage structures would be protected during remediation works. Engineers explained the careful planning required and the role of the site archaeologist in this important aspect of the project.

Feedback from the community indicated that most visitors were grateful for the opportunity to learn more about the remediation works and the Bowden redevelopment as a whole.



For questions relating to the remediation of the former Brompton Gasworks site, call Ventia's Community Contact Line

1800 009 414

or email

bromptonremediation@ventia.com.au



Your chance to get involved

While the remediation of the former Brompton Gasworks site takes place, Renewal SA will be planning the design of the public open space at the State Heritage Place within the larger Bowden Heritage Precinct.

There will be three opportunities for you to provide input and share ideas with the consultants who are working on the public realm design, as well as the project team. You will be able to offer your feedback both face-to-face and online.

STAGE 1

The design principles for the public open space within the State Heritage Place will be developed based on your ideas about 'what makes a great public space'.

STAGE 2

The initial design options for the public open space will be developed based on the design principles and made available for your feedback.

STAGE 3

A refined concept for the public open space will be developed based on your response to the initial design options and made available for further feedback.

Thoughts and ideas obtained during the three-stage community engagement process for the public open space will be considered in the context of the Bowden Heritage Precinct Master Plan, which is drawn from the Bowden Master Plan and Urban Design Guidelines. This approach will ensure continuity and connectivity across the various stages of the overall project.

HAVE YOUR SAY ONLINE – it's easy! View the Ideas Wall on Social Pinpoint, share your thoughts and ideas between now and Friday 10 January 2020 by visiting:

[renewalsa.mysocialpinpoint.com/
bowden-heritage-precinct/ideas](https://renewalsa.mysocialpinpoint.com/bowden-heritage-precinct/ideas)

Further information

For background information on the Bowden Heritage Precinct, visit renewalsa.sa.gov.au/bowden-heritage-precinct

CONTACT US

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INVITATION

Community Drop-in Session – Your Invitation

What makes a great public space?

We are looking for ideas to guide the design principles that will be applied to the heritage-listed section of the Bowden Heritage Precinct, which contains a number of important, historic structures.

Saturday 23 November 2019
Anytime between 11.00am–3.00pm

Bowden Display Centre, 18 Gibson Street Bowden

At the community drop-in session, you will have the opportunity to:

- ▶ meet members of the team who will be designing the public open space
- ▶ take part in the first stage of the engagement process for the public open space
- ▶ learn how to provide feedback on the public open space using our online Ideas Wall.